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BOROUGH OF REIGATE

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
T.H. Bingham, M.D. B.Ch., D.P.H.

Together with the

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
R. Frankham, M.A.P.H.I.

1966

Public Health Department,  
Caberfeigh,  
24, Hatchlands Road,  
Redhill,  
Surrey.  
(Telephone No. Redhill 61265/6)





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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

(Also Medical Officer of Health, Godstone R.D., and  
Divisional County Medical Officer):

THOMAS H. BINGHAM, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health (part-time)

GWENDOLYN R. TAPP, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.C.H.

Public Analyst (part-time)

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Diploma of Meat and Other Foods

JOHN W. TIFFNEY, Diploma P.H.I.E.B.  
Diploma of Meat and Other Foods

Pupil Public Health Inspector

TERENCE BRAY (until 28th February, 1966)

PAUL A. JEFFERY (from 1st March, 1966)

Technical Assistant

JOHN AGENT

District Pests Officers

EDWARD E. ARNOULD  
PETER REEVES

Disinfecting Officer

ALAN C. BRITTEN

Clerks

MARY B. WICKENDEN (Part-time)  
EDNA L. TOWN (until 31st July, 1966)  
PAUL A. JEFFERY (until 28th February, 1966)  
VIRGINIA OSBORN (from 1st April, 1966)  
SUSAN A. GEALE (from 3rd October, 1966)

---

WILLIAM MOORE, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.R.C.O.G., D.T.M.H., D.P.H.  
(from 1st April, 1967)







BOROUGH OF REIGATE  
ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
for the year 1966

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee

I beg to present my Report on the public health, sanitary circumstances, and vital statistics of the Borough of Reigate in the year 1966.

The report is drawn up generally in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, as indicated in Circular 1/67, and contains the information requested in the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

At the end of the year there was an outbreak of measles, but this occurred throughout the whole country. There was also a large number of cases of dysentery in two Day Nurseries, but the clinical effects were mild.

The routine preventive immunization programmes progressed satisfactorily, see page 24. Advice was frequently given to people travelling abroad.

Immigrants were visited and advised in accordance with the circular issued by the Ministry of Health. This is a very important aspect of preventive medicine.

As can be seen from the figures, the Reigate statistics follow the national trend closely.

Finally, on behalf of Dr. T.H.Bingham, I should like to express thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and assistance, to Mr. R. Frankham, the Chief Public Health Inspector, and the rest of the Public Health Department staff for their loyal and efficient support, and especially so since my own arrival in Reigate.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM MOORE

Medical Officer of Health.

21st July, 1967  
Caberfeigh,  
Redhill.

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## SECTION I

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (Land and Inland Water)	..	..	..	..	..	10,255
Population, Census 1961	..	..	..	..	..	53,751
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-year 1966	..	..	..	..	..	55,930
Number of inhabited houses at 1st April, 1966, according to Rate Books	..	..	..	..	..	16,723
Rateable Value (1st April, 1966)	..	..	..	..	..	£2,912,089
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	..	£11,635

-----

#### Population

The resident population of the Borough at mid-year, 1966, was estimated by the Registrar-General to be 55,930. This represents a population increment of 440 on the corresponding estimate for 1965, of which 131 is attributed to natural increase (i.e. excess of live births over total deaths) and 309 to migration into the area. The population gain under the first heading is somewhat below the average due to decline in the birth rate.

The overall density of population is 5.45 persons per acre and 3.9 per inhabited dwelling; the corresponding findings at the census enumeration in 1961 were 5.24 and 3.37, respectively.

#### Births

The 793 live births (404 of males and 389 of females) assigned to the Borough in 1966 represent a recorded birth rate of 14.2 per 1,000 of the estimated population. When adjusted by the prescribed formula for the purpose of comparison, the recorded rate is advanced to 14.7, which compares with the national rate of 17.7 for the same period.

The illegitimacy rate of 61 per 1,000 live births is a little lower than in 1965.

#### Stillbirths

The six stillbirths in the year represent a stillbirth rate of 5.6 per 1,000 total (i.e. live and still) births. This falls well below the corresponding rate of 15.4 for England and Wales.

#### Deaths

The 662 deaths (328 of males and 334 of females) assigned to the Borough in 1966 represent a crude death rate of 11.8 per 1,000 of the estimated population. When adjusted for comparison, this is reduced to 8.6, which compares with a corresponding rate of 11.7 for the country as a whole.





The numbers of deaths of each sex in various age groups were as follows:-

<u>Age group</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 4 weeks	9	1	10
4 weeks and under 1 year	5	1	6
1 - 5 years	1	-	1
5 - 15 years	2	2	4
15 - 25 years	8	-	8
25 - 35 years	2	-	2
35 - 45 years	14	3	17
45 - 55 years	21	12	33
55 - 65 years	47	30	77
65 - 75 years	81	79	160
75 and over	138	206	344
	<u>328</u>	<u>334</u>	<u>662</u>

Sixteen infants died in their first year, of whom nine failed to survive for one week. All but two of the infant deaths took place in hospital. The infant mortality rate for the year was 20.1 per 1,000 live births, which compares with an average rate of 18.2 for the preceding five years and 19.0 for England and Wales.

Six persons were fatally injured in road accidents, which is the same number as last year, and there were nine deaths from other accidental causes, mostly accidents in the home.

Deaths from other specified causes and their distribution by age and sex do not disclose any unusual features, apart from exceptionally low mortality from acute infectious diseases and, in particular, from influenza.

Extracts from the Vital Statistics for the year are set out in Table I and comparative statistics for the years 1934 to 1966 are shown in Table II.

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47 (As amended by the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951)

This section confers the necessary powers to secure the compulsory removal to hospital or other suitable premises of persons suffering from grave chronic disease or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

It was not necessary to exercise the powers under this Section during 1966. However, the staff of the Public Health Department were required to investigate four cases of elderly people living alone in a state of neglect and with the assistance of the domiciliary and supporting services available, the persons concerned were enabled to remain in their own homes, with an acceptable standard of care and amenity.



TABLE I  
EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births:-

Legitimate	..	..	Males	377	Females	370	Total	747
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	27	Females	19	Total	46

Birth Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.2
Do. 1965	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.5
Do. for the five years 1961 to 1965	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.9

Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of Total Live Births 5.8

Still Births:-

Legitimate	..	..	Males	4	Females	-	Total	4
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	-	Females	2	Total	2

Rate per 1,000 total births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.6
Do. do. 1965	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.4

<u>Total Live and Still Births</u>			Males	408	Females	391	Total	799
------------------------------------	--	--	-------	-----	---------	-----	-------	-----

Infant Mortality:-

Deaths of infants under the age of one year:-

Legitimate	..	..	Males	10	Females	2	Total	12
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	4	Females	-	Total	4

Infant Death Rate:-

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20.1
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	87.0

Deaths of infants under the age of 4 weeks:-

Legitimate	..	..	Males	6	Females	1	Total	7
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	3	Females	-	Total	3

Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13.4
--	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	------

Maternal Mortality:-

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

Deaths (nett):-

Males	..	328	Females	..	334	Total	662
Do. 1965:-							
Males	..	291	Females	..	326	Total	617

Death Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.8
Do. 1965	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.1
Do. for the five years 1961 to 1965	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.2

Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions 61.9

Deaths from:-

Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	125
Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Gastro-enteritis (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	..	..	..	1





TABLE II

## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1934 - 1966

Year	Estimated Population	Live Births	Birth Rate per 1,000 population (unadjusted)	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 population (unadjusted)	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
						Reigate	England
1934	35,400	417	12.4	409	11.5	39	59
1935	35,720	399	11.8	407	11.3	52	57
1936	36,000	456	13.2	443	12.3	36	59
1937	36,360	451	13.0	447	12.2	40	58
1938	36,630	478	13.6	415	11.3	32	53
1939	37,090	463	13.1	454	11.7	34	50
1940	41,970	447	11.1	579	14.2	34	55
1941	42,040	519	13.6	574	13.6	67	59
1942	40,060	581	16.5	496	12.3	45	49
1943	38,400	565	16.6	509	13.2	45	49
1944	36,360	593	17.9	524	14.4	41	46
1945	36,670	569	15.5	497	13.5	33	46
1946	39,690	677	18.9	493	12.4	32	43
1947	40,480	744	19.6	534	13.2	20	41
1948	41,770	611	15.6	453	10.8	28	34
1949	42,150	592	14.8	518	12.3	37	32
1950	42,030	554	13.7	564	13.4	22	30
1951	42,220	530	13.2	551	13.0	20	29
1952	42,460	599	14.4	532	12.5	21	27
1953	44,890	654	15.2	637	14.2	30	26
1954	47,610	666	14.4	572	12.0	13	25
1955	48,180	637	13.6	585	12.1	17	25
1956	48,730	663	14.3	592	12.1	7	24
1957	49,330	681	13.8	564	11.6	13	23
1958	49,760	750	15.1	655	13.2	20	22
1959	50,580	706	13.9	586	11.5	14	22
1960	51,230	793	15.4	660	12.8	18	21
1961	54,260	790	14.5	642	11.8	12	21
1962	54,680	841	15.3	705	12.8	17	21
1963	54,890	823	14.9	748	13.6	18	21
1964	55,150	863	15.6	643	11.6	28	20
1965	55,490	810	14.5	617	11.1	16	19
1966	55,930	793	14.2	662	11.8	20	19



TABLE III

Causes of Death in the Borough of Reigate  
during 1966

					M	F	TOTAL
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	-	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other forms	..	..	..	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	1	1	2
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	..	..	..	-	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	..	-	-	-
8.	Measles	..	..	..	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	..			1	-	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	..	8	3	11
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	..	24	5	29
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	..	-	21	21
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..	-	2	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..			36	26	62
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	..	-	1	1
16.	Diabetes	..	..	..	1	2	3
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	..	25	62	87
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..	82	63	145
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	2	3	5
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	..	24	49	73
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	14	20	34
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	-	1	1
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	22	26	48
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	22	5	27
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	..			8	2	10
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	3	-	3
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..	2	5	7
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	4	1	5
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	6	-	6
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	..	6	1	7
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..			25	28	53
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	5	1	6
34.	All other accidents	..	..	..	5	4	9
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	2	2	4
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	-	-	-
Totals					328	334	662





SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREAWater

Every dwelling house in the Borough has a continuous and direct supply of water from the public mains, with the exception of a bungalow in Gatton Park, which has a piped and filtered supply from a nearby spring. The water from this source is of doubtful bacterial quality and periodic visits are made to the occupier of the premises to ensure that precautions already explained to him are being observed; samples taken were satisfactory. The substitution of a mains supply is not reasonably practicable in this case. The detached cottage on the southern outskirts of Reigate referred to in earlier Reports, was connected to the mains supply at the beginning of the year.

About 115 caravans on approved sites in the Borough are supplied with mains water by means of standpipes which, in all cases, are within reasonable distance of the caravans. Sixty-seven other caravans have a mains supply to each, two being connected directly to the mains and the others through an intermediate storage tank.

There was no important extension of the public water supplies during the year, except that necessitated by new building development. The mains supply, which is distributed in the whole area by the East Surrey Water Company, was adequate in quantity throughout the year and was augmented, when necessary, by distribution of water from the reserve boreholes at The Clears and Buckland. The water is derived from deep borings in the chalk and is softened, chlorinated and de-chlorinated before distribution to consumers. Samples of the water before and after treatment are submitted at least twice weekly for bacteriological examination, under private arrangements made by the Company. In addition, samples of the treated water are examined chemically and/or bacteriologically about once a week under a rota system arranged by the Medical Officers of Health of the districts supplied by the Company, thus avoiding duplication of sampling. Samples are taken in each district at stated times and copies of the analyst's reports are circulated for the information of the other districts concerned. These reports invariably indicated that the chemical and bacterial purity of the water reached a very high standard. The following report is typical of those received during the year:-

"This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance and is free from metals. It is slightly alkaline in reaction. The water is fairly soft in character and has a very moderate content of mineral and saline constituents. It conforms to the highest standard of organic quality and bacterial purity. These results are considered satisfactory and indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic uses."

With regard to the fluoridation of water supplies, one of the most appropriate statements is the following passage from a recent edition of the British Medical Journal:-

"Fluoridation of water entails the adjustment of its fluoride content to levels which reduce the prevalence of dental caries without causing damage to teeth or other organs. Fluoridation aims to reproduce the natural situation where some water contains fluoride in quantities which are sufficient to confer relative resistance to caries. Judgement upon the desirability of fluoridating communal water must be based upon an evaluation of data that have been obtained in epidemiological studies which first revealed the dental importance of fluoride, in controlled trials of fluoridation which have demonstrated its preventive action, and in laboratory and other experiments designed to elucidate the physiological





properties of the fluoride ion and its possible toxic effects. If this evaluation is made it will be seen that fluoridation is not a new and untried procedure, for in certain parts of the world naturally fluoridated water has been drunk for decades; and in the United States, where over 58 million people now drink water containing significant amounts of fluoride, there is twenty years' experience with fluoridation. Indeed, the available data suggest that probably no other procedure in the whole field of preventive medicine has had its effectiveness and safety so thoroughly established; yet, in spite of this, and our ample knowledge of the physiological actions of fluoride, we in this country still await the widespread introduction of fluoridation."

### Swimming Baths and Pools

There are two public swimming baths in the Borough. Both are covered baths owned and controlled by the Corporation, and are equipped with the necessary plant for continuous filtration and chlorination. The baths are filled from the public mains and are emptied and re-filled if the chemical quality of the water tends to fall below the required standard; such action was not necessary in 1966.

In addition to the chemical tests that are made at least five times a day by the Baths Manager, samples of water from both baths were submitted to analysis at the height of the bathing season, and were reported to be of satisfactory organic and bacterial purity.

Samples of water from four open air swimming baths at local schools were also submitted for analysis. In the case of two of the baths, the Analyst drew attention to the absence of residual chlorine, and significantly the presence of bact. coli. Following advice to the schools concerned, this deficiency was satisfactorily remedied, as subsequent tests showed. All these baths are now equipped with automatic filtration and chlorination plants, and the Public Health Inspectors are provided with the necessary apparatus for checking the efficiency of the plant in operation during periodic inspections.

Advice was given with regard to the maintenance of acceptable standards at two swimming pools at private houses.

### Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The arrangements for drainage, sewerage and sewage disposal are reasonably adequate in all parts of the Borough. Extensions and improvement carried out during the year included the laying of 1894 lineal yards of surface water sewer and 1301 yards of foul sewer.

There was no important change in the arrangements made by the Borough Engineer & Surveyor for the emptying and disposal of cesspool contents.

Forty-five premises have septic-tank/filter-bed systems of sewage disposal. Four installations draining individual properties were in the process of being repaired or overhauled during the year. This was necessary because of complete breakdown of the system, resulting from lack of proper maintenance.

In all, twelve properties were connected to the main sewerage system during the year, involving the abolition of one inadequate septic-tank/filter-bed system and eight cesspools. A further cesspool, serving one of the Council's public conveniences, was also disused following connection to the main sewer.

### Closet Accommodation

All dwellings in the Borough are on the water carriage system, with the exception of about nine properties on the rural outskirts of the district, where the apparatus available is a pail or chemical closet, and disposal of sink waste liquids is to some form of cesspool or soakaway. Two of these have been void for several years.



## Rivers and Streams

The streams and surface water courses in the area are regularly inspected and all necessary action is taken to render them free from obstruction, pollution and rodent infestation.

## Public Cleansing

I am indebted to the Cleansing Superintendent for the following information relating to the arrangements for the collection and disposal of refuse:-

"During the earlier part of 1966 the maintenance of a weekly frequency on refuse collection continued to present a serious problem, primarily caused by acute labour shortage, and despite the large amount of overtime which was required a weekly collection could seldom be given.

Around September the labour position eased somewhat and enabled the department to reduce Saturday overtime working to a minimum but consistent with maintaining a weekly refuse collection. It is believed that the labour position is purely seasonal and there can be no future guarantee of retaining labour or frequency of collection.

The envisaged introduction of the proposed Incentive Bonus Scheme on refuse collection failed to materialize during 1966 and a satisfactory solution is still being pursued. Further attempts to introduce the scheme are to be made in 1967.

One is continuously aware of the increasing volume of refuse associated with present living standards and modern building development. To compensate these effects a further large capacity continuous compression vehicle (50 cubic yard capacity) is expected to come into service early in 1967. Large capacity ( $1\frac{1}{4}$  cubic yard) temporary refuse storage containers are recommended and are of considerable benefit to premises where a high refuse volume output is in evidence. The extension of this principle has been assisted by the introduction of a Bulk Refuse Container Hire Scheme in October 1966. The annual hire charge being £5. 0s. 0d. and where trade refuse occurs a charge of 10/- per emptying is made.

The service for the special clearance of bulky household discards, e.g. furniture, pianos, T.V. sets, refrigerators, washing machines, etc., continues with growing demand. The charges made are nominal and discretion is exercised wherever the need arises. Over 600 special clearances were made during the year and of these approximately 37% were made without charge.

Car collection and/or disposal facilities, created to avoid abandonment on open spaces, increased to 262 during the year, making a total of 544 since the inception of the scheme in December 1963.

These arrangements operate satisfactorily and there is positively no excuse for local residents to dump and litter the countryside with these items.

The refuse disposal facilities afforded to the Dorking & Horley R.D.C. were slowly brought to an end, thus enabling them to make alternative arrangements. The department concluded acceptance of refuse from this Authority in November, but has continued to accept salvage paper and cardboard on a free basis.

Foreseeing the reduced tonnage resulting from the Dorking & Horley R.D.C. termination, and because of difficulties in recruiting stokers, the twenty-four hour cycle of incineration was curtailed to a sixteen hour daily operation from June, 1966.

The Refuse Disposal Works, now dealing solely with refuse from the Borough of Reigate, operates above capacity with a present throughput of approximately 65 tons daily.





Because of the age of the Refuse Disposal Works, the future of refuse disposal is under review."

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area

A classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered, and the action and result of action taken in respect of them will be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

### Shops and Offices

In accordance with local practice, all plans submitted to the Borough Engineer & Surveyor relating to shops are passed to the Chief Public Health Inspector to enable him to offer advice or suggestions, more particularly with regard to ventilation of shop fronts, lighting, sufficiency of sanitary accommodation, water supply and drainage.

The Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963, which made provision for the safety, health and welfare of persons employed in such premises, came into operation in August, 1964. Inspections of registered premises continued at a healthy pace, and towards the end of the year the main bulk had been visited. Particulars of these are summarised in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

### Camping and Caravan Sites

The Corporation Caravan Site at Three Arch Road, Redhill, has accommodation for a maximum of thirty-nine caravans and is almost exclusively restricted to applicants having residential or occupational connections with the Borough. One plot is kept vacant and available for urgent and special cases. The site has continued to serve its purpose satisfactorily in helping to meet the needs of local caravan dwellers. There were three new lettings in 1966 and a total of forty-two families were in occupation at some time during the year.

There are also two privately owned caravan sites with accommodation for about forty-two caravans. At one of these sites there are specially prepared plots for about sixty-seven caravans of the "Mobile Home" class, each provided with mains water, electricity, internal water closet, bath and main drainage connection; drainage points were laid to nearly forty further plots during the year. Later in the year the foul sewerage system was extended to the other caravan site, when the existing septic-tank/filter-bed system was abolished. The facilities and amenities generally at both sites conform with the Model Standards for caravan sites.

One Licence was renewed for a further period in respect of an individual caravan for permanent residential use at a farm at Upper Gatton.

### Atmospheric Pollution

Four contraventions of the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations were recorded in the Borough during the year; improvements were achieved following representation to the firms concerned.



There were five complaints of smoke nuisance during the year, two relating to business premises - smoke and fumes connected with an experimental process at a local factory laboratory, and smoke and smuts from a laundry chimney. Both sources of trouble were dealt with successfully on approach to the firms involved. The remaining three complaints were of a minor nature, two arising from malfunctioning oil fired domestic boilers and a third from a local stable where the practice of burning horse manure was carried on to reduce the bulk. All three were satisfactorily improved following investigation.

There were five notifications of the installation of new boiler plant above the defined rating or capacity, all of them being at business premises. The obligation to notify such installation is being brought prominently to the notice of those it is likely to concern.

#### Eradication of Bed Bugs

No case of infestation by bed bugs was reported or dealt with during the year. Infestations of this nature are now very rarely encountered in the Borough.

#### Registered Common Lodging Houses

There are no registered common lodging houses in the Borough.





Factories Act, 1961

In accordance with the requirements of Section 153 (i) (a) of the Factories Act, 1961, I submit the following particulars of action taken during 1966 in relation to factory premises:-

(1) Inspections

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspection	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	17	16	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	194	78	-	-
(iii) Others	25	36	-	-
TOTALS	236	130	-	-

(2) Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Lack of cleanliness	-	-	2	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	1	1	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	8	8	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	2	2	-	-	-
TOTALS	12	12	2	-	-

(3) Out Work Sections 133 and 134

In compliance with the requirements of Section 133 (i) (c) notice was given by two local employers in respect of seventy-one outworkers engaged by them in the painting of small plastic articles.

Eight lists were received from other Authorities in relation to eight outworkers, seven engaged in the making or altering of wearing apparel and the other one in badge finishing. It was found on inspection that the work was not in any instance being done in unwholesome premises, and no action was required in respect of contravention.



### SECTION III

#### HOUSING

Statistical particulars relating to the demolition, closure and repair of unfit houses under the Housing and Public Health Acts are now submitted quarterly to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

The particulars supplied under these headings in respect of the year 1966, are briefly summarised as follows:-

(a)	(i)	Houses demolished in Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1957, Section 42)	.. .. .	38
	(ii)	Families displaced from Clearance Areas		36 (85 persons)
(b)		Individual unfit houses dealt with (Housing Act, 1957, Sections 16 & 17) -		
	(i)	Demolished	.. .. .	1
	(ii)	Closed	.. .. .	1
	(iii)	Families displaced	.. .. .	1 (1 person)
(c)		Unfit houses made fit -		
	(i)	Informally - by owner	.. .. .	76
	(ii)	After formal notice	.. .. .	Nil
The following information is of interest:-				
(d)		Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)		476
(e)		Number of dwelling-houses - included in (d) above - inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	.. .. .	21
(f)		Number of dwelling-houses represented as unfit and suitable for statutory action -		
	(i)	Under Section 42, Housing Act, 1957		6
	(ii)	Under Sections 16 & 17, Housing Act, 1957		9
	(iii)	Under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957		Nil
	(iv)	Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health		Nil
(g)	(i)	Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of 1965		Nil
	(ii)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during 1966		1
	(iii)	Number of cases relieved during 1966		Nil
	(iv)	Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of 1966		1

Two small areas were officially represented for clearance in 1966. One area which comprised two dwelling-houses in Farwick Road, Redhill, had previously been the subject of consideration for Demolition Orders. Changed circumstances coupled with Redhill re-development made it necessary for a Compulsory Purchase Order to be made involving the inclusion of other land. The other area comprised a small isolated terrace of four houses in Reigate situated within the bounds of the castle grounds. Demolition Orders were made in respect of four properties in Garlands Road, one in Garibaldi Road, Redhill, and also at a small isolated back to back type house in Reigate. One other property was the subject of a Closing Order.





Thirty-eight properties in Clearance Areas and one individual unfit house were demolished, and one house was closed in pursuance of a Closing Order. At the end of the year a total of 356 unfit dwellings had been demolished or closed and 324 families, comprising 854 persons, had been re-housed in accordance with the Council's programmes for the clearance of unfit houses.

The Council's Housing Manager has kindly supplied the following particulars with regard to rehousing:-

1.	<u>Number of new dwellings completed during the year</u>	
	Erected by Borough Council	127
	Erected by private enterprise	284
		<hr/> 411
2.	<u>Families rehoused from waiting list:-</u>	
	In permanent Council houses	24
	In permanent Council flats	105
	In old people's bungalows	2
	In miscellaneous property	6
	In old people's flatlets (conversions)	8
		<hr/> 145
3.	<u>Families rehoused from clearance areas:-</u>	
	In permanent Council houses	16
	In permanent Council flats	15
	In old people's bungalows	5
	In miscellaneous property	3
		<hr/> 39
4.	<u>Families transferred from miscellaneous properties:-</u>	
	To Council houses	2
	To Council flats	1
	To other miscellaneous property	7
		<hr/> 10
5.	<u>Families transferred from one type of Council dwelling to another:-</u>	172
6.	<u>Tenants of other Local Authorities who have exchanged accommodation with tenants of Reigate Borough Council:-</u>	16
7.	<u>Tenant of private landlord who has exchanged accommodation with tenant of Reigate Borough Council:-</u>	1





## SECTION IV

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### Milk Supply

In compliance with the requirements of the Milk (Special Designation) (Special Areas) (No. 2) Order, 1954, all milk sold by retail in the Borough must be heat treated, i.e. pasteurised or sterilised, with the exception of tuberculin-tested milk.

Milk supplies are sampled frequently on the lines and for the purposes mentioned in previous reports. The laboratory findings on samples examined in 1966 are summarised in Table IV, and show that the milk on sale locally reaches a high standard of bacterial purity.

Thirty-four samples of untreated milk and 93 of pasteurised milk were submitted for the prescribed test for keeping quality. Six of the formal samples failed this test, the samples arising in two incidents where trouble was occurring at a producer's bottling plant outside Reigate. Liaison was maintained with the local authority concerned and also with Ministry of Milk Production Officers, the problem later being resolved. The raw milk samples were also examined for the presence of brucella abortus, with completely negative results.

All but one of the samples of pasteurised and the four sterilised milk samples satisfied prescribed tests, indicating that the heat treatment had been correctly applied. In the case of the one failure, the matter was passed to the adjoining local authority of the area where the milk was processed. Later samples were satisfactory.

One sample of untreated milk submitted to biological examination was reported to be free from living organisms of tuberculosis. This periodic biological test is confined to farm-bottled tuberculin-tested milk that will not be subjected to heat treatment before delivery to the consumer. There are now only two local producers of such milk, which is sold by retail in the Borough.

TABLE IV

#### RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

##### 1. Tests required by Regulations governing Special Designations

No. of Samples	Methylene Blue			Phosphatase		Turbidity
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Test Void	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory
Untreated: 34	27	6	1	-	-	-
Pasteurised: 93	93	-	-	92	1	-
Sterilised: 4	-	-	-	-	-	4

##### 2. Biological Examination

No. of Samples	Tubercle Bacilli +	% Tubercle Bacilli +
1	Nil	0.00



## Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963 and 1965

There are four designations of milk under these Regulations - "Untreated", "Pasteurised", "Sterilised" and "Ultra Heat Treated". All milk sold for human consumption comes under one of these grades. Licences are issued for quinquennial periods, the current one ending on 31st December, 1970, and they are also valid now elsewhere than in the area of the licensing authority. Four new dealer's licences were issued during 1966, and at the end of the year there were thirty-five dealers with such licences, covering forty-two premises in the Borough.

The one dairy in Reigate with a pasteurising plant closed down in July, when it was finally decided that it was uneconomical to carry out the extensive modernisation and repair scheme that had become essential. It was with regret, therefore, that the last link was severed with this processing side of milk production.

### Adulteration, etc.

No special action was necessary under Sections 47 and 48 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, nor under the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 to 1948, and the Condensed Milk Regulations, 1959.

All articles submitted to the Public Analyst were examined for the presence of preservatives, in accordance with the Preservatives in Food Regulations, 1962. No contravention of the Regulations was reported.

### The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

These Regulations came into force on 1st January, 1964, and prescribed for the pasteurisation of all liquid egg to be used in food for human consumption, other than egg "broken out" in the food manufacturers' premises and used within twenty-four hours. The method of pasteurisation and the test to be applied were laid down in the Regulations. There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the Borough, and no problem arose necessitating sampling during 1966.

### Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food

Samples for chemical analysis are sent to the Council's Analyst, Mr. D.D.Moir, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., and samples of milk and ice-cream for biological and bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Epsom.

There are now five premises in the Borough at which ice-cream is manufactured for sale. In each case soft ice-cream is made from a sterile cold mix in a freezing machine, from which it is directly dispensed through a nozzle. Three of the premises are sweet confectioner's shops and have been registered for the manufacture of ice-cream, while the other two are cafes and exempt from registration. The proprietors of these establishments have accepted a code of practice formulated by the Chief Public Health Inspector for the proper control, cleansing and sterilisation of the freezing machines and equipment.

A total of 132 confectioners, grocers, fruiterers, newsagents, etc., are registered for the retail sale of ice-cream which, in every instance, is obtained pre-packed from one or other of the large manufacturing and distributing firms. Hotels, catering establishments and cinemas are exempt from registration.

Twenty-five samples of ice-cream - two from registered retailers and twenty-three from caterers in the Borough, including one from a catering vehicle - were examined for bacterial quality by submission to the methylene-blue reduction test. Twenty-three of these were placed in provisional Grades I and II, indicating that a satisfactory standard of cleanliness had been observed in manufacture, storage and handling. The remaining two samples taken from catering establishments were placed in Grades III and IV. Detailed investigation, supervision and advice by the Public Health Inspectors resulted in satisfactory results being obtained on subsequent samples in these cases.





## SECTION V

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

#### Provision of Isolation Hospital Accommodation

The provision of hospital accommodation for the isolation and treatment of cases of infectious diseases is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board. Patients from the Borough are usually admitted to the Godstone Infectious Diseases Hospital at Bletchingley, if the required accommodation and facilities are available; otherwise they are sent to suitable hospitals in other parts of the Hospital Region.

The disposal to various hospitals of the seven infectious cases requiring institutional care in 1966, was as follows:-

Godstone Infectious Diseases Hospital	1 case (Scarlet Fever)
Queen Mary's Hospital for Children	1 " (Dysentery)
East Surrey Hospital (Thornton House)	3 cases (Puerperal Pyrexia)
Dorking General Hospital	1 case (Typhoid)
Redhill General Hospital	1 " (Meningitis)

In addition, several cases of uncomplicated minor infections were admitted to Hospital, on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health, on grounds of inadequate facilities for home isolation.

#### Notifiable Infectious Diseases

The action taken on receipt of a notification that a person is suffering from an infectious disease is fully described in previous reports.

The exclusion from school of infected persons and contacts is carried out generally in accordance with the suggestions contained in the Memorandum issued jointly in 1956 by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health.

Table V shows the numbers of cases of the various notifiable infectious diseases (other than tuberculosis) recorded in the area during the calendar year, classified according to the age of the patient, together with the numbers of cases removed to hospitals and the total deaths from each disease. The prevalence of the various diseases is reviewed below.

#### Smallpox

No confirmed case of smallpox was reported in the Borough in 1966.

#### Scarlet Fever

There were only seventeen cases of scarlet fever notified during the year. Only one was admitted to hospital due to very poor home conditions. All the cases were clinically mild, but were investigated in the usual routine manner.





TABLE V

Cases of Infectious Disease (Other than Tuberculosis) Notified  
During the Year, 1966

	Cases notified in age periods												Totals	Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths
	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over			
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	2	2	10	2	1	-	-	-	-	17	1	-
Whooping Cough	1	2	3	1	9	9	-	1	-	-	-	-	19	-	-
Measles	11	77	94	112	96	283	5	3	3	1	-	-	685	-	-
Dysentery	1	2	2	3	7	28	9	1	6	1	1	-	61	1	-
Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	3	3	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	3	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
TOTALS	13	81	99	119	106	330	16	7	13	3	4	-	791	7	48
Totals 1965	16	24	52	45	47	95	11	10	5	5	10	3	323	6	37

\* All forms



### Whooping Cough

There was a slight increase in the number of notified cases. The disease was generally mild in character.

### Measles

There was a sharp increase in the number of cases of measles, mainly occurring at the end of the year.

### Dysentery

Sixty-one cases were notified. Most of these were confined to two sharp outbreaks of *S. sonnei*. Routine investigations and preventive measures were carried out, and some 1,200 visits were made by members of the Health Department, over 1,000 specimens being sent for laboratory examination.

### Meningitis

One case of meningococcal meningitis was reported. The patient was admitted to hospital and recovered.

### Pneumonia

Only one case was notified, although there were forty-eight persons who died from this disease. The reason for the apparent discrepancy is due to the fact that with many elderly patients it is a terminal event, and not officially notifiable.

### Puerperal Pyrexia

Three women, all of whom were in local maternity units, were notified as suffering from rise of temperature in the lying-in period.

### Erysipelas

Three cases of erysipelas were notified during the year and were treated satisfactorily.

### Typhoid Fever

One case occurred in an immigrant, and it was understood that the patient brought the disease with her from another country. No further cases developed.

### Other diseases

Ten cases of acute illness, which were believed to be infective in origin, were admitted to hospital for investigation. Seven of these were subsequently confirmed as cases of bacterial or viral infection.

A total of 56 specimens from suspected cases and contacts of infectious diseases were submitted for laboratory examination by the staff of the Public Health Department.





## Tuberculosis

Particulars of the new cases of tuberculosis which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table VI, together with an analysis of the deaths in the area from this disease during the same period.

Nine new cases of tuberculosis of the lungs were notified in 1966, the same number as in 1965, which represents a case rate of 0.15 per 1,000 of the population; this is approximately one-third of the average annual rate for the ten years from 1953 to 1962. These figures stress the importance of routine x-rays of the chest, especially among those more likely to develop the disease. The National Health Service offers miniature mass x-ray facilities and B.C.G. inoculation for children.

Only one new case of non-respiratory tuberculosis was notified during the year.

In addition to the new cases, i.e. those notified for the first time, there were reports of six previously known cases of tuberculosis (five respiratory and one non-respiratory) which had been notified elsewhere and taken up residence in the Borough.

The names of twenty-nine cases were removed from the register of tuberculous patients; five on death, two on moving from the district and twenty-two on complete recovery from the disease. It is interesting to note that none of the causes of death was attributable to tuberculosis.

At the end of the year there were 167 known cases of tuberculosis in the Borough, including 143 (90 males and 53 females) in which the lungs were affected, and 24 (8 males and 16 females) with tuberculosis of other organs. In many of these the disease is quiescent or arrested, but all are regularly visited and supervised by the staff of the local Chest Clinic. The total number of cases represents a reduction of thirteen on the corresponding figure for 1965.

## Mass Radiography

A total of 4140 persons (2690 males and 1450 females) were examined through the normal Mass Radiography Service at public and industrial surveys in the Borough. Of those so examined, two men were found to be suffering from respiratory tuberculosis and four from lung cancer, which had hitherto been unsuspected.



TABLE VI

New cases of Tuberculosis, and all Deaths from the Disease in the Area during 1966, classified according to Age, Sex and Type of Disease

Age Periods	Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 years ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 years ..	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 years ..	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 years ..	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55 years ..	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65 years ..	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards ..								
TOTALS	7	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
Totals 1965	8	1	1	3	1	-	-	1



## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

### Vaccination against Smallpox

Vaccination against smallpox is not at present undertaken at the County Council's Clinics in the Borough. Particulars of notifications of vaccination performed by private medical practitioners during the year are as follows:-

	<u>0 - 1</u> <u>year</u>	<u>1 - 5</u> <u>years</u>	<u>5 - 15</u> <u>years</u>	<u>Total</u>
Primary Vaccination	78	364	62	504
Re-vaccination	-	4	157	161

The foregoing figures represent a slight rise in the primary vaccination of infants which, in accordance with official advice, is now postponed until the second year. The number of re-vaccinations shows a substantial increase.

Records of vaccination and re-vaccination are not now required in respect of persons over the age of fifteen years; these were formerly included in the totals and, for the most part, related to persons who required valid International Certificates of Vaccination for the purpose of foreign travel.

### Immunisation against Diphtheria.

The numbers of children who completed a full course of immunisation during the year, either at the County Council's Clinics or under private arrangements, are as follows:-

Year of Birth:	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1959/62</u>	<u>Others under</u> <u>16 years</u>	<u>Total</u>
	315	346	15	7	12	8	703

In addition, reinforcing doses of diphtheria prophylactic were given to 1486 persons, most of whom were school entrants who had completed a course of immunisation three or four years previously.

The rate of acceptance of diphtheria immunisation has been well maintained, particularly as regards infants in their first year. It is estimated that about 75 per cent. of the child population in the Borough have been artificially immunised against diphtheria.

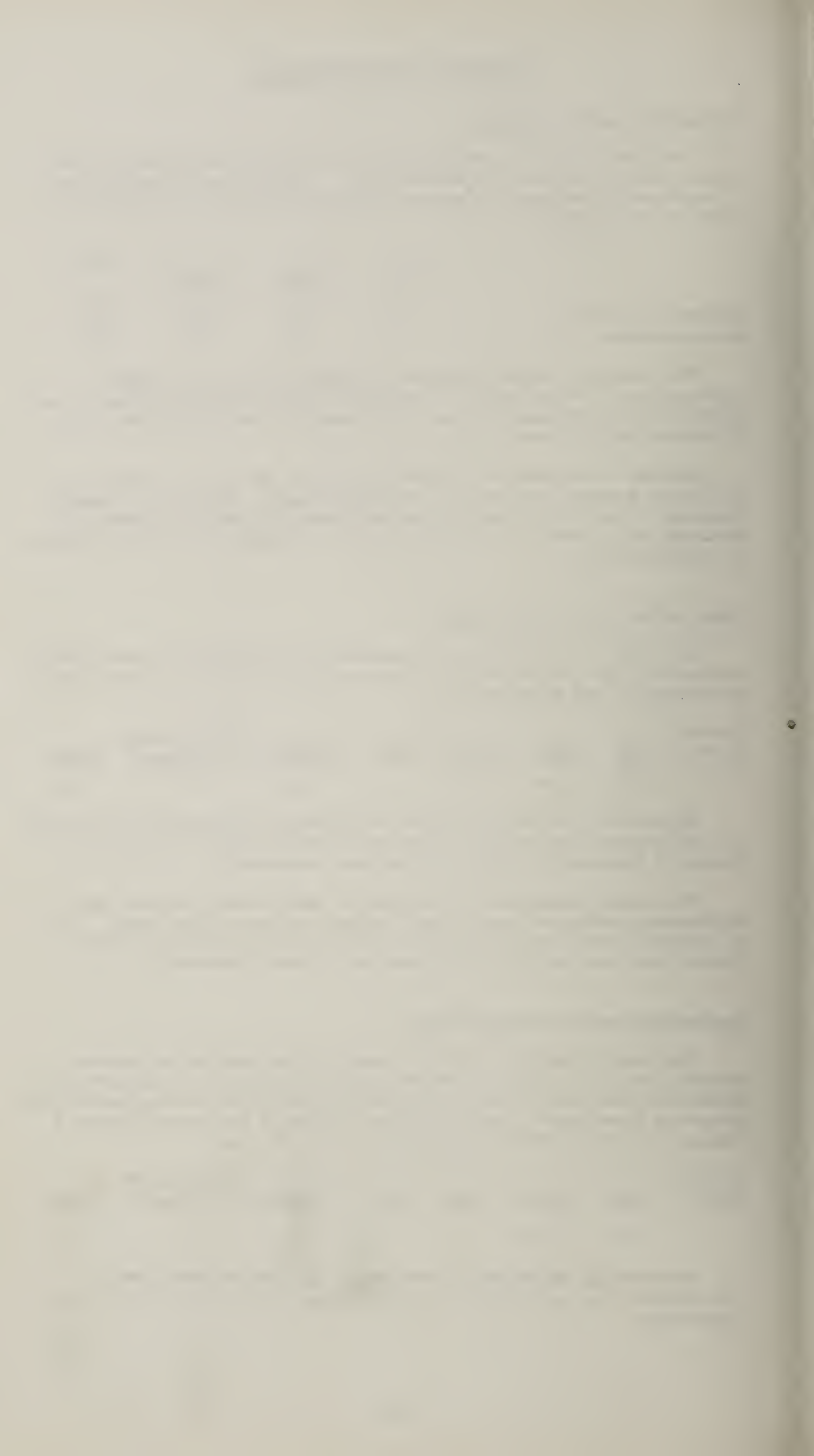
### Vaccination against Whooping Cough

The County Council's scheme is aimed at the vaccination against whooping cough of infants under the age of six months, with reinforcing doses about one year later. The numbers of children who completed a full course of immunisation during the year, either at the County Council's Clinics or under private arrangements, are as follows:-

Year of Birth:	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1959/62</u>	<u>Others under</u> <u>16 years</u>	<u>Total</u>
	315	343	15	4	3	-	679

Reinforcing injections of whooping cough vaccine were given to 612 children who had completed a course of primary immunisation a year previously.





### Vaccination against Tetanus

Vaccination against tetanus is available to children whose parents expressly wish them to be so protected. It is the present practice to advise primary immunisation against tetanus before the age of six months, with reinforcing doses about one year later and again at school entry and between the ages of eight and twelve years. Tetanus vaccine may be given separately, but is usually combined with the agents used for active immunisation against diphtheria.

The numbers of persons vaccinated against tetanus in 1966, are as follows:-

0 - 4 years	683
5 - 14 years	110
	<hr/>
	793
	<hr/>
Reinforcing doses	1455

### Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

There was no extension of the groups eligible for vaccination under the County Council's arrangements, which include persons up to the age of forty years and those who are considered to be exposed to special risk. Oral vaccine has now superseded Salk vaccine, which is given by injection, and is administered in three doses spread at intervals of four to eight weeks, followed by reinforcing doses three or four years later.

The numbers vaccinated against poliomyelitis by their own doctors or at County Council's Clinics during the year are as follows:-

	<u>Oral Vaccine</u>	<u>Quadrilin</u>	<u>Total</u>
Primary immunisation	711	18	729
Reinforcing doses	692	6	698

### Measles prophylaxis

Immune serum is available through the Public Health Department for the total or partial immunisation of susceptible measles contacts.

### B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

The County Council's arrangements for routine B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis extend to thirteen-year-old pupils at County Council and independent schools, and also to some older pupils and students at County Colleges and other establishments for further education. Subject to the consent of their parents, persons in these groups are skin tested to ascertain if they have already had a primary tuberculous infection, and those giving a negative result are offered B.C.G. vaccination. The object of the scheme is to protect young people before they leave school and so widen their range of contact with possible sources of infection.



Testing was conducted at twelve schools in the Borough during the year, with the following results:-

Number of pupils in age group	1093
Number consenting to treatment	817
Percentage consenting to treatment	74.7%
Number Mantoux tested	779
Number of negative reactors	737
Percentage giving negative reaction	94.6%
Number vaccinated	736
Percentage of negative reactors vaccinated	99.9%
Percentage of age group vaccinated	67.4%

In addition to the above, 61 pupils who, for one reason or another, had failed to attend on previous occasions were skin tested; 58 were negative reactors and were successfully vaccinated.

The foregoing figures are roughly in accord with those for recent years, except for reduction in the proportion of pupils giving a negative reaction to the Mantoux test.

While the main purpose of the scheme is the ascertainment and vaccination of children who have not already had a primary infection, it is the usual practice to arrange, where possible, for x-ray examination of positive reactors to exclude the possibility of active infection. No unfavourable x-ray findings were reported during the year.

It was not necessary in 1966 to conduct a special investigation at any school or college in the Borough because of the occurrence of an infectious case of tuberculosis amongst pupils or members of the teaching staff.

#### Protection against other diseases

Prophylactic inoculation against other infectious diseases, such as cholera, yellow fever, etc., is necessary in the case of persons proposing to visit foreign countries where these diseases are endemic and is usually undertaken at specified centres.

#### Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases

Information relating to the prevalence of non-notifiable infectious and contagious diseases is necessarily incomplete, and is obtained mainly from reports of school absentees, the periodic statements of sickness claims submitted to the local office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance in relation to insured persons and the Registrar's weekly return of deaths. Cases also come to notice through enquiries by employers with regard to quarantine periods, requests for disinfection, casual communications by private medical practitioners and applications for domestic assistance under the Home Help Scheme. The occurrence of cases at the Day Nursery and in residential children's homes is also reported.

The information obtained from these various sources indicated that the prevalence of non-notifiable infectious illness in the Borough in 1966 was low and caused little interference with employment or school attendance. Some 96 cases of chicken-pox occurred amongst school children, mainly in the first half of the year. There were also 23 reports of mumps and 1 of German measles.





## Disinfection

There are facilities at the Disinfecting Station for the sterilisation of articles that have been exposed to infection and for the cleansing of verminous persons and their belongings. Provision has been made for the treatment by formalin vapour of books and other articles that are unsuitable for disinfection by super-heated steam. The work undertaken at the Disinfecting Station during the year is summarised in a later section of this report.

## Uncleanliness

### Pediculosis

In the course of selective school hygiene inspections twenty-nine individual pupils were found to be affected with pediculosis which, in most instances, was of minor degree and confined to nits in the hair. All were promptly and satisfactorily cleansed in their own homes, with any necessary advice and assistance from the Health Visitors, including the loan of nit combs and cleansing agents.

### Scabies

Cases of scabies are now much less common than formerly. One case was reported, treated at a local clinic, and arrangements made, at the same time, for the disinfection of bedding, towels and personal clothing.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR, 1966.

Public Health Department,  
Caberfeigh,  
24, Hatchlands Road,  
REDHILL, Surrey.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen

It is with pleasure that I submit my Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors during 1966.

The aspects of public health work that received most attention during the year were associated with housing, both repair and demolition; improvement grant work on the older houses; food hygiene; licensed premises; infectious disease outbreaks associated with dysentery; and offices and shops inspections.

With the staff at full strength this work was able to proceed much more smoothly. Certain staff changes on the clerical side caused some dislocation in administration, but this had improved by the end of the year. Our first Student Inspector in the Diploma course passed out in January and, in the absence of a vacancy here moved on to a nearby Authority. By arrangement his place was taken by another Student, who had been in the Department for some months as a clerk. A vacancy exists for a second Student, but it is hoped to fill this when the first is half way through his four years course, thereby maintaining a balanced training schedule.

As was reported last year certain facets of the work merit brief mention, viz:-

The major post war clearance areas were brought to a finish, with the demolition of much of the property on the south side of Cromwell Road, Redhill; indeed preparation by road layout had already begun for the new homes to replace the old.

With the second five years clearance programme almost completed, preliminary steps were taken to evaluate the remaining problem on unfit and substandard properties that might require attention in the next five to ten years.

A brighter picture is presented on the house improvement plane where 60 properties were brought up to modern standards during the year, making a total of over 660 dwellings since the scheme began.

Following protracted discussions at the one remaining milk processing dairy on necessary improvements, the firm concerned decided to close down the plant in July on grounds of economy.

Milk sampling presented one or two minor upheavals - a rarity these days - but all with origins outside the Borough.

Food inspection was mostly uneventful, the main weight of investigation being absorbed in dealing with food complaints related to staleness arising from bad stock rotation.

An increase in the number of adverse reports on food samples taken by the Inspectors is significant only in that practically all arose from unsatisfactory labelling.

Unaccustomed as we are to litigation the discovery of an open safety pin in a loaf of bread appeared to leave little alternative but to resort to the Courts in the circumstances; an appropriate fine resulted.



Meat inspection continued as a 100% inspection service at the Merstham slaughterhouse - an appreciable fall was noted in the numbers of animals slaughtered due mainly to a big drop in sheep dealt with.

Two outbreaks of dysentery, both at nurseries, created considerable investigation work and specimen-taking at upwards of 300 homes.

The local "glass of beer" received a close scrutiny when many of the licensed premises came under our focus of attention, and a number of improvements were sought, in consequence.

Offices and shops inspections continued apace and few remained to be categorised at the end of the year; premises registered fell from upwards of 700 to 682, with around 5,700 persons employed therein.

Controlled tipping at Merstham, by the adjoining London Borough to the north, continued in good order and without incident, the only "complaint" appearing to be that the tipping space was filling far too fast.

In pest control there was a lower incidence of fly and wasp problems and no incidents at all on the "wee" insect pests.

Rodent control found us still seeking that elusive sewer rat without success, thank goodness, though there was an increase in surface infestation reported and confirmed.

This Health Report for Reigate is significant in that it is the last full year for our revered chief, Dr. T.H. Bingham, not only Medical Officer but also guide, adviser and main stay for so many years. We who continue to "Bat On" can but say, "Thank you for the privilege of knowing you and working with you and for your kindness and tolerance toward our shortcomings at all times!"

The friendly help of colleagues in the Department and also around the Corporation is willingly acknowledged also, as is the support and assistance so readily forthcoming from you all at Public Health Committee meetings.

I remain Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

At your service

R. FRAKHAM.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

21st July, 1967.





## Infectious Disease, Disinfection and Disinfestation

During the year 135 visits of enquiry were made on behalf of the Medical Officer of Health in connection with cases of infectious disease and suspected food poisoning.

Assistance was given in dealing with two outbreaks of dysentery that arose during the period, both at Nurseries, although the second one spread to a number of local schools. As a result enquiries were conducted at upwards of 300 families. 1,170 specimens were collected for examination, resulting in the detection of upwards of more than 180 positive cases. In both cases the infection was eventually controlled.

The disinfection and disinfestation of material continued to be carried out at the Council's Disinfecting Station at the Disposal Works, Redhill. This was done either in the steam disinfecting apparatus or by chemical means in the fumigation chamber. As in former years the service was also available to three neighbouring authorities:- Caterham and Warlingham U.D.C., Dorking and Horley R.D.C., and Godstone R.D.C. Two additional authorities included during the year were Epsom & Ewell Borough and Leatherhead U.D.C.

Details are given below of the work carried out, including that at the Station and, unless otherwise indicated, relate to articles of bedding, clothing, furnishings, etc:-

(1) <u>Reigate Borough</u>	From <u>Dwelling-houses</u>	From <u>Institutions, etc.</u>
Infectious & Other Diseases	-	-
Vermin (Lice)	18	-
Miscellaneous	155	31
Rooms Disinfected	1	-
Rooms Disinfested	27	-
(2) <u>Caterham &amp; Warlingham U.D.C.</u>		
Infectious & Other Diseases	36	-
(3) <u>Godstone R.D.C.</u>		
Infectious & Other Diseases	96	-
(4) <u>Epsom &amp; Ewell Borough</u>		
Lice and Scabies	100	-

The arrangement for the disinfection of library books by formalin vapour continued to be available, and was required on six occasions in 1966.

The infestation of dwelling-houses by vermin, such as bed-bugs and fleas, was minimal; no confirmed cases arose requiring attention during the year. Regular attention for cockroach disinfestation was necessary at an old people's home; insect pest control under contract arrangements was continued at a hospital, a large institution and fire brigade premises; similar work was carried out at schools in the Borough, as and when necessary, on behalf of the County Education Authority.

Four cases of elderly persons living alone in insanitary conditions were dealt with by the Department during 1966. Two of the cases were in an advanced stage of neglect and required much tact and patience on the part of the officers involved.

The disinfection of telephones in all departments was continued throughout the year by the Disinfecting Officer, when about 160 telephones were dealt with monthly.



## Slaughtering and Meat Inspection

This subject is governed by the following legislation:-

- (a) Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.
- (b) Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958.
- (c) Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 62 - 79 - Slaughterhouses and Knackers' Yards.
- (d) Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.
- (e) Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958.
- (f) Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924 - 52.
- (g) Meat (Staining and Sterilization) Regulations, 1960.
- (h) Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963.

Eight applications by slaughtermen for the renewal of their licences were granted at the beginning of the year. No infringements of the Act were noted during 1966.

The slaughterhouse at Merstham, modernised in 1963, provides for a "line-system" of slaughter and dressing and improved space in slaughter-hall, cooling room and despatch area. It continued to function satisfactorily throughout the year, although some items of maintenance had to be undertaken and caused temporary inconvenience.

As before, 100% inspection of meat was achieved throughout the year, this having been the case since 1954 when the slaughterhouse was originally extended and reopened. There was a marked drop in the animals slaughtered during the year, namely attributable to the reduction in sheep dealt with. The incidence of disease rose to a minor degree, and was largely due to parasitic conditions in sheep and lung infection in pigs; tuberculosis remained at a minimal level. Cattle found to be affected with cysticercus bovis, a parasitic disease which may lead to the development of tape worm in humans, showed a fall in numbers due in part to a reduction in bovine animals slaughtered. See tables on pages 32 & 33 for further details.

Arrangements for the disposal of diseased meat continued to be satisfactory, and an arrangement - already in operation - was continued, to allow for such meat as appropriate to be consigned to a Mink Farm, as is permitted under the Staining and Sterilisation Regulations.

In calculating the percentage of animals found on inspection to be affected by disease, other than tuberculosis or cysticercosis, figures relating to cattle and sheep affected with liver fluke, and to pigs suffering from pneumonia or lung congestion, are disregarded, as these are common conditions not of value for comparative statistical purposes.

The licensed knacker's yard at Three Arch Road, Redhill, continued operations throughout the year, being used for the cutting up of carcasses of animals which had died or had been slaughtered on the owners' premises. No horses or other animals were slaughtered here during the year. Consignments of imported frozen meat, not for human consumption, were processed by the occupier on the premises for animal food; the arrangement being that the Department was notified in advance from the Port Health Authority concerned.





CARCASES AND OFFALS INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle (Excluding Bulls and Cows)	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
NUMBER KILLED	607	1	70	147	3,461	4,092
NUMBER INSPECTED	607	1	70	147	3,461	4,092
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCUL- OSIS & CYSTICERCI						
Whole carcasses condemned	2	-	-	1	6	15
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	152	-	20	-	175	710
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	25.37%	-	28.57%	-	5%	17.71%
	♂ 11.7%	-	♂ 20%	-	♂ 1.96%	9.81%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	-	-	-	-	-	21
Percentage of the number inspected aff- ected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	0.51%
CYSTICERCOSIS						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	8	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submit- ted to treatment by refrigeration	8	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

♂ Percentage excluding Distomatosis

⌘ Percentage excluding Pneumonia and Congestion of Lungs.

The total weight of carcasses and offals condemned was  $3\frac{1}{4}$  tons.

There were no horses slaughtered for human consumption during the period.



MEAT INSPECTION - REASONS FOR CONDEMNATION

Description.	Number Slaughtered	Tuber- culosis										Fever.	Dropsy and/ or Emaciat- ion, also Immaturity	Congestion	Injury	Septicaemia	Nephritis	Fascioliasis & Cirrhosis	Parasitic	Abscesses	Pleurisy and Peritonitis	Pneumonia	Tetaneous- tiasis	Miscellan- eous	TOTAL																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
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Food and Drugs Act, 1955 -  
Sections 8 & 9 - Food Unfit for Human Consumption

The inspection of food stuffs at premises throughout the Borough continued to be made during the routine inspection of food premises, sampling visits; also at the special request of food traders. Calls in the last category remain at a minimal level nowadays, it being usual for unfit pre-packed foods to be returned through trade channels.

There were 19 complaints to the Department during the year of alleged unsatisfactory foods; 2 others were of dirty food containers. Ten of the cases were attributed to foreign material, 2 being found on investigation to be unjustified. Of the remaining 8 cases in the foreign material category, 2 were of imported canned food containing insects; 2 others arose from matchsticks in food (fortunately not connected with smoking in the food premises); 3 of the remaining 4 cases showed laxity on the part of food manufacturing staff, as when a piece of material for cleaning food machines was found in a sausage and when luncheon meat was found to contain a part of the animal not normally used in the recipe. The remaining incident was considered to be of a serious nature, being an open safety pin in a loaf of bread. The bakery firm responsible was prosecuted in this case and a fine of £10 was imposed, with £14.8s.0d. costs.

The remaining 9 incidents were mainly due to unsatisfactory stock rotation, involved in the over-long storage of perishable foods. It would be a fair assessment, therefore, to say that in nearly all the cases dealt with, the human element was the one at fault. Mechanical failures have become a rare occurrence with modern food production methods, and it was again pleasing to note the low incidents of dirty milk bottles during the year.

During 1966 the following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption, and were surrendered to the Inspectors for disposal at the Council's Refuse Disposal Works:-

Meat and offal	7½ cwt.s.
Meat - canned	285 tins.
Fish	14 lbs.
Sugar & Confectionery	534 packets & jars.
Frozen Food	976 packets.
Tinned Fish	322 tins.
Tinned fruit	1,759 tins.
Tinned Milk	95 tins.
Tinned Vegetables	994 tins.
Biscuits	1,087 packets.
Cereals	1,038 packets.
Fats	1,337 packets.
Beverages & Bottled Juices	151 jars and bottles.
Fruit	70 lbs.
Miscellaneous packet food	783 packets.

This work involved 43 visits by the Inspectors.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 - Sections 13 to 21 - Hygiene in connection  
with the sale of Food, etc. to the Public  
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

The routine inspection of food premises generally indicated that a satisfactory standard of hygiene was being maintained and it was only necessary to issue warnings in a relatively small number of cases. Inspections were continued of mobile food traders operating in the Borough and 27 routine checks were made in such cases. In respect of one vehicle used on a fruiterer/green-grocer round, the transport was considered to be worn out and unhygienic; it was renewed early in the year.





REGISTER OF FOOD PREMISES AND PARTICULARS OF WASHING FACILITIES.

<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>Number of Premises</u>	<u>Wash Hand Basins Provided</u>	<u>Sinks</u>	
			<u>Required</u>	<u>Provided</u>
Grocers	98	98	98	98
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	36	36	36	36
Butchers	34	34	34	34
Fishmongers	18	18	18	18
Bakehouses	9	9	9	9
Confectioners, Cake	8	8	8	8
Confectioners, Sweet	81	81	23	48
Food Manufactories	3	3	3	3
Catering Establishments:- Restaurants, Cafes, etc.	72	72	72	72
Licensed Premises	64	54	64	67
School Kitchens	23	23	23	23
Clubs	13	13	13	13

Primary inspections made at food premises were as follows:-

Catering Establishments	...	...	...	...	...	...	91
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	122
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Vehicles and stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Licensed Premises	.....	...	...	...	...	...	16

Routine follow-up inspections under the Regulations numbered 356, and 1,075 visits of inspection for all purposes were made to these premises.



Premises which are required to be registered under Section 16 are shown below in detail as being on the register at the end of 1966.

(a) Manufacture and sale of preserved foods, etc:

<u>Type of Premises</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Butchers, etc. ....	32	62
Fish-fryers ....	9	28
Bakers (manufacture of meat pies) ..	2	6
Delicatessen shops ....	3	8
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	46	104
	<hr/>	<hr/>

(b) Manufacture of Ice-Cream

Confectioner ....	<u>3</u>	<u>12</u>
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(c) Storage and Sale of Ice-Cream

Confectioners, etc. ....	79	46
Grocers, etc. ....	40	18
Fruiterers, etc. ....	4	12
Newsagents, etc. ....	7	5
Garages (Not selling yet) ....	1	-
Fishmongers ....	1	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	<u>132</u>	<u>84</u>

In addition to these premises, there are 11 catering establishments where ice cream is sold for consumption off the premises, these being exempt from registration under existing law, and there are 2 of these premises where soft ice cream is manufactured. Since this package type deal in small unit ice cream manufacture came into more common use, there has been no increase in premises operating it over the past 2 years; a fact which may be due to the initial cost of the machine and the inability to keep surplus stocks over night.

The arrangement was continued with the Borough Engineer whereby any plans of food premises, submitted for Bye-law approval, were examined in the Department and comments made on an aspect of environmental hygiene involved.





One hundred and thirty samples purchased by the Sampling Officers were submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst, 41 being formal samples and the remainder taken informally. They covered a wide range of commodities and eleven were the subject of adverse reports by the Public Analyst.

Details of these 11 samples are as follows, the conclusion reached in each case also being indicated, viz:-

- Sample No. 17 - Mustard au Whisky - no flavour of Whisky and contained only minute quantity - label amended.
- Sample No. 18 - Marmalade, Navy Rum - contained only small percentage of rum just sufficient to modify flavour - label amended.
- Sample No. 21 - Prunes in Syrup - description of ingredients unsatisfactory - label amended.
- Sample No. 29 - Boneless Chicken - description of ingredients unsatisfactory - label amended.
- Sample Nos. 42 & 58 - Minced Beef & Onion with Gravy (2 samples) - heat content low - later increased by agreement.
- Sample No. 48 - Skimmed Milk - unsatisfactory label - label amended.
- Sample No. 50 - Strawberries Canned - unsatisfactory label - label amended.
- Sample No. 61 - Real Dairy Cream - considered deficient in milk fat, as a sterilised cream - deferred pending report by Food Standards Committee on subject.
- Sample No. 76 - Sour Lemon Sweets - label misleading, as no lemon juice present - recipe altered to include lemon juice.
- Sample No. 92 - Natural Yoghurt - label misleading for a low fat yoghurt - label amended.

In August participation in a scheme, was started with other authorities up and down the country, for the systematic sampling of certain foods to provide data on the extent of contamination by toxic chemicals (particularly organo-chloride pesticide residues). The scheme arose on a request from the Government to the Advisory Committee on the subject "to consider and advise on improvements to present safety arrangements desirable to provide greater protection against hazards arising from the use of toxic chemicals in agriculture and food storage". As a result a rota was organised at county level indicating the samples apportioned to the various authorities for the year ending July, 1967. Four samples were to be procured here during the period, stipulated as follows:- infant food (milk base), beef in any form, potatoes and brassica. The only sample to be taken before the end of the year - infant food - was satisfactory.

A table of the food and drugs samples during the year is set out on page 38.



FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 - SAMPLING

(Public Analyst: D.D. Moir, Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C.)

	Samples Taken			Adversely Reported Upon
	Formal	Informal	Totals	
Beer	3	-	3	-
Bread & Flour	-	2	2	-
Cheese	-	3	3	-
Confectionery - Cake	-	13	13	-
Confectionery - Sweet	-	5	5	1
Coffee	-	2	2	-
Cream	-	3	3	1
Drugs	-	3	3	-
Fats - Animal	-	3	3	-
Fish & Fish Products	2	3	5	-
Fruit - Dried or Tinned	-	9	9	2
Fruit Drinks	1	7	8	1
Ice Cream	-	6	6	-
Jams & Marmalade	-	3	3	1
Jellies	-	1	1	-
Meat & Meat Products	2	9	11	3
Milk	26	-	26	-
Milk Products	1	3	4	-
Mustard	-	1	1	1
Potatoes	-	1	1	-
Sausages	1	1	2	-
Spirits	5	-	5	-
Sugar	-	1	1	-
Vegetarian Foods	-	3	3	-
Yoghurt	-	2	2	1
Miscellaneous	-	5	5	-
Totals	41	89	130	*11

\*All informal samples.





These Orders relate to the following imported foodstuffs:

Fresh apples; currants, sultanas and raisins; eggs (in shell); dried eggs; oat products; raw tomatoes; bacon and ham; dead poultry; meat; margarine; malt products; frozen or chilled salmon and sea trout; butter; honey.

They provide that on sale the goods shall bear an indication of the country of origin, the object being to give the purchasing public the opportunity of choosing between goods of Home, Empire or Foreign origin.

Upwards of 35 inspections were made at retail shops during the year, and minor contraventions noted related to apples and tomatoes; no case arose requiring special report or statutory action.

Milk and Dairies General Regulations, 1959.

The entries in the Registers required to be kept in accordance with the Regulations are summarised as follows:-

Distributors:

(a) With 3 dairies in the Borough ... ..	2
(b) With dairies outside the Borough ... ..	5
(c) With premises in the Borough ... ..	32
(bottled milk sold in general shops)	

Of the 3 dairies, 2 were used only for the cold storage and distribution of bottled milk; the third was in premises equipped with a high temperature short time pasteurising apparatus. Following representations, begun in the previous year, to the dairy firm regarding extensive improvements now necessary to the dairy buildings and plant, the company decided not to proceed with the agreed plan, in the light of economic changes in policy. As a result, processing at the plant ceased in July; the premises having since remained in use solely for the storage and distribution of milk. The other two dairies were maintained to a satisfactory standard throughout the period. As has applied for several years now, all milk sold in the Borough must be heat treated with the exception of farm-bottled tuberculin tested milk now sold under the designation "Un-treated".

Frequent samples of the various grades were taken on a regular sampling basis. Unsatisfactory reports arose in the cases of 6 raw milk samples and one pasteurised sample. A detailed report of this sampling is given in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

Hairdressers' and Barbers' Establishments.

The premises used for the purpose of carrying on the business of hairdresser or barber in the Borough are subject to bye-laws made in 1954, under Section 135 of the Surrey County Council Act, 1936. These bye-laws require the persons carrying on the business to maintain cleanliness of the premises and of the instruments, towels, equipment and materials used therein. During 1966, no serious infringement of the bye-laws was noted. At the end of the year, the register of premises contained particulars of 13 men's and 29 women's establishments.

Factories Act, 1961.

The table on page 40 shows in detail the various trades in the Borough that come within the scope of the Act. During the year 109 inspections were made. The Register of factories has been further brought up-to-date and now contains 236 entries; in 12 cases defects relating particularly to sanitary accommodation and general cleanliness were discovered; defects in 12 factories were remedied. H.M. Inspector of Factories drew attention during the year to two cases involving defects which came within the sections of the Factories Act enforceable by the Local Authority. Over 25 inspections were made at building sites and work of engineering construction; in the main it was found that improved temporary sanitary facilities were being provided.





Factories Act, 1961 - List of Factories  
on Register at end of 1966.

					<u>Mechanical</u> <u>Power</u>	<u>No</u> <u>Mechanical</u> <u>Power</u>
Agricultural Engineers	..	..	..		1	-
Art Leather Works	..	..	..		1	-
Bakers	..	..	..	..	9	-
Basket Works	..	..	..	..	1	-
Book Binder	..	..	..	..	1	-
Boot Makers and Repairers	..	..	..	..	4	-
Brick Makers, etc.	..	..	..	..	2	-
Brush Makers	..	..	..	..	1	-
Builders and Contractors	..	..	..	..	9	5
Cabinet Makers and Upholsterers	..	..	..	..	7	1
Cork Disc and Insulation Manufacturers	..	..	..	..	1	-
Corn and Seed Merchants	..	..	..	..	2	-
Dressmakers and Milliners	..	..	..	..	5	2
Dry Cleaners	..	..	..	..	6	-
Engineers Automobile	..	..	..	..	29	-
Engineers Electrical	..	..	..	..	2	1
Engineers Light	..	..	..	..	34	2
Essence Makers	..	..	..	..	2	-
Film Processing	..	..	..	..	1	-
Food Manufacturers	..	..	..	..	1	-
Foundries	..	..	..	..	2	-
Fullers Earth Works	..	..	..	..	1	-
Fur Processing	..	..	..	..	1	-
Furniture Making	..	..	..	..	1	-
Gas Holder Station	..	..	..	..	1	-
Glass Cutting and Paint Packing	..	..	..	..	2	-
Heating Engineers	..	..	..	..	3	-
Knacker's Yard	..	..	..	..	-	1
Laundries	..	..	..	..	3	-
Locomotive Repairs	..	..	..	..	1	-
Log Sawing	..	..	..	..	1	-
Mattress Manufacturer	..	..	..	..	1	-
Monumental Masons and Undertakers	..	..	..	..	2	-
Motor Body Repairs	..	..	..	..	10	-
Motor Cycle and Cycle Repairs	..	..	..	..	1	3
Newspaper Fudging	..	..	..	..	2	-
Photographic Works, etc.	..	..	..	..	3	-
Plastics Makers	..	..	..	..	5	-
Precast Concrete Manufacturers	..	..	..	..	1	-
Printers	..	..	..	..	10	-
Radio Repairs	..	..	..	..	-	1
Rust Proofing	..	..	..	..	1	-
Scale Repairers	..	..	..	..	2	-
Sewing Machine Repairs	..	..	..	..	2	-
Sheet Metal Workers	..	..	..	..	4	-
Soldering Outfit Assembly	..	..	..	..	1	-
Steel Wool Manufacturer	..	..	..	..	1	-
Suitcase Manufacturer	..	..	..	..	1	-
Tailors	..	..	..	..	2	1
Thermometer Manufacturer	..	..	..	..	1	-
Timber Merchants	..	..	..	..	3	-
Tyre Repairs	..	..	..	..	2	-
Watchmakers	..	..	..	..	3	-
Wax Refining Works	..	..	..	..	1	-
Building Sites and Works of Engineering Construction	..	..	..	..	25	-
TOTALS					219	17



## Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

There is only one factory which is subject to the provisions of this Act - one in which spring mattresses are manufactured. This is registered in accordance with Section 2. No samples of rag flock or other fillings were taken during 1966.

Housing Acts, 1957 to 1964. Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 & Rent Act, 1957  
Housing Subsidies Act, 1956. Slum Clearance (Compensation) Act, 1956.  
Housing (Management of Houses in Multi-Occupation) Regulations, 1962.

Two small areas arose for clearance action during the year, and involved six properties in all; compulsory purchase orders were sought to achieve control following demolition. Demolition Orders were made at six dwellings and one other was the subject of a Closing Order; houses demolished numbered 38 and one was closed. With the second five years programme of unfit houses nearing completion, only about twenty scattered properties remained of the 120 or so scheduled, nine of these remaining being already owned by the Council in central Redhill. Preliminary steps were taken, in consequence, to list remaining houses throughout the district that might well be or become unfit during the next five to ten years. An estimate of such a figure had been returned to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government early in 1965, when a consolidated total of 163 dwellings remained in the Borough at that time. This figure is now about 85, but subject to review and alteration arising from changing standards of fitness.

Two applications were received for certificate of disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957, both certificates being issued. In one case the owner undertook to carry out the necessary repairs, and following their completion the certificate was cancelled.

Cases requiring investigation arose at houses in multi-occupation, and in a number of cases improvements in amenities were sought. As in the past, such improvements related to increased sanitary accommodation, personal washing facilities, hot water supplies, better food storage and preparation facilities and improved lighting and heating. In co-operation with the Borough Engineer close control was exercised on proposed conversion of this type and fire prevention officers of the Surrey Fire Brigade gave advice and assistance where adequate means of escape in case of fire was required.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.  
House Purchase and Housing Acts, 1959 to 1964.

The Public Health Inspectors continued to supervise work in connection with standard grants and 45 applications were dealt with, 42 being approved. Schemes were completed at 34 houses and, in consequence, the following improvements were achieved:- 30 baths in separate bathrooms, 30 wash-hand basins, 28 hot water supplies, improved water closet accommodation in 29 cases and 20 foodstores installed. Four hundred and sixty-eight visits of inspection were made in connection with this work generally. Only six applications for grants related to tenanted houses, a relatively small percentage of the total. Up to the end of the year around 275 applications for standard grants had been received since the inception of the scheme, and 214 of these had been approved.

Liaison continued to be exercised with the Borough Engineer in proposals dealing with discretionary grant applications, and 29 such cases were referred to this Department for observations during the year.

Consequent on this grant assistance generally, 60 housing units were brought up to a reasonable standard of both repair and amenity in 1966.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

The scale of inspection under the Act continued to be satisfactory and constant through most of the year and, as a result, not more than 7% of premises remained to be inspected. About 374 general inspections were made under the Act, 645 visits were paid, and contraventions were noted at 231 premises. At the end of the period approximately three-quarters of the deficiencies had been remedied.





Reinspection work indicated a similar pattern to the previous year, with co-operation from occupiers mainly good. Broadly the problems of 1965 have been over-come and remedying of contraventions has kept pace with those found more recently. Cleansing with redecoration continued to be a slow process, redecoration work remaining as a weak link in the Act without appropriate Regulations. A similar situation remains in respect of lighting, of course. Problems associated with guarding gravity feed slicing machines were mainly resolved, such guards having been fitted in all reported cases; unfortunately there are still some machines without guards in premises not subject to registration.

Once again contraventions were mainly to do with cleanliness of premises, hot water supply, adequacy of lighting, drying facilities for personal clothing, heating, ventilation, and absence of thermometers, first aid boxes and abstracts.

A slight increase was noted in accident notification, 16 being reported. Most notifications came from a small number of "accident conscious" firms and there is little doubt that many more incidents go unreported and so are not investigated; probably a case for further publicity. Involvements in falls, collisions or accidents whilst handling goods were the majority causes.

There was a slight reduction in the premises on the register at the end of the year - from 709 to 682. Numbers of premises in the various categories, including in parenthesis the numbers of persons employed therein, were as follows:- 213 Offices (3,085), 393 Retail Shops (2,040), 17 Wholesale Premises (194), 53 Catering Establishments (361), 6 fuel storage depots (52).

As has been emphasised in earlier reports on this work, these new requirements affect a wide range of premises, are both many and varied and it may be some time before a pattern of compliance can be estimated. Without being over optimistic that pattern is now promising; there remains the need for further education, publicity, and revisits until compliance with most amenity requirements is automatic, without the goad of coercion. That target seems way ahead at the moment.

A tabular statement on the various contraventions remedied in offices and shops is included on page 45.

#### Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957

This Order deals with the inspection and licensing of boiling-plants used by collectors of waste food for animal feeding. Such waste food may spread foot-and-mouth and other animal diseases if not properly boiled for at least one hour.

No new licences arose during the year, one licensed piggery closed down and inspections of all other waste food plants indicated that the requirements of the Order were being generally observed.

#### Fairground Sanitation:

The three fairs, operating for short periods in the Borough during the year, were all visited and inspected for general sanitary arrangements. In one case it was again necessary to draw the attention of the occupier of the land to the requirement that adequate facilities must be readily available upon the arrival of the fair. Temporary sanitary accommodation and an emptying and cleansing service continued to be provided by the Council at appropriate charges.

#### Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952, and Regulations, 1953. Oil Heater Regulations, 1962 & 1966

The Heating Appliances Regulations deal with safety standards in the construction of electric, gas and oil space heaters, and for the fixing of satisfactory fire guards. The standard now adopted by manufacturers to conform with the appropriate British Standard Specification ensures compliance with the requirements. Contraventions on retail sale are now a rarity. In two cases an unsatisfactory second hand electric fire was seen on display, these were withdrawn from sale immediately and broken up when the retailers were advised.



## Noise Abatement Act, 1960.

This Act, on nuisances arising from noise and vibration, does not lay down rigid standards on permissible noise levels; indeed, it would appear most difficult to do so, variable as the problem will be in each case on location and distance, intensity and duration, and the time of day or night involved.

Eight complaints of alleged noise nuisance were received during the year and, in all but one case, investigations revealed some measure of justification for complaint. The sources of noise were varied and they did not follow any particular pattern. In only three cases was the noise related to factory premises, and in all these was found to be due to noisy processes of a temporary nature, one being a recurring noise previously dealt with. Of the remaining four complaints, three arose from working on a building site, and the other one involved road breaking drills used indiscriminately in a built-up area without any attempt at noise suppression. Representations to the contractors concerned resulted in measures being taken to reasonably control the noise.

### Complaints

The following is a summary of the complaints received during the year:-

Insanitary condition of premises	...	...	...	...	65
House Drainage	...	...	...	...	63
Cesspools overflowing	...	...	...	...	8
Non-removal of house refuse	...	...	...	...	12
Rats or Mice	...	...	...	...	552
Other Vermin (Foxes, Badgers, etc.)	...	...	...	...	22
Other insect pests	...	...	...	...	49
Wasps nests	...	...	...	...	107
Unsound food (sold)	...	...	...	...	21
Keeping of Animals, etc.	...	...	...	...	5
Smoke Nuisance	...	...	...	...	15
Noise Nuisance	...	...	...	...	8
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	32

### Notices Issued and Action Taken

The following Table is a statement of the notices dealt with during the year:-

#### Preliminary -

Outstanding on 1st January, 1966	...	...	...	154
Issued during year	...	...	...	347
Complied with during year	...	...	...	348
Statutory action necessary	...	...	...	-
Outstanding on 31st December, 1966	...	...	...	153

#### Statutory -

Outstanding on 1st January, 1966	...	...	...	-
Issued during year	...	...	...	-
Outstanding on 31st December, 1966	...	...	...	-





## Nuisances Abated, Defects Remedied, etc.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year, both voluntarily and in consequence of notices in respect of dwelling-houses, food premises, factories, and other business premises.

### Dwelling-Houses

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Eaves-gutters and stack-pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Chimney stacks rebuilt or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pointing or otherwise weatherproofing of brickwork (houses)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other causes of dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Drains examined or tested (primary inspections only)	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
Drainage systems repaired, extended or relaid	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Block drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Soil or ventilation pipes installed or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
New W.C.'s. installed	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
W.C. apparatus renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sewage treatment plants or cesspools repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Plaster of walls and/or ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Floors, windows and doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Food stores provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Sinks installed or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Wash-hand basins renewed or installed	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Hot water supply installed	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Baths installed	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	9

### Food Premises

Food storage and display improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sanitary accommodation improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Rooms cleansed and/or redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Plaster of walls and/or ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Preparation tables repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Wash-hand basins installed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ablution facilities otherwise improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
First Aid Equipment provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sinks renewed or installed	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Dustbins renewed/bin areas improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

### Factories

Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drainage systems improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sanitary accommodation improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	5





Other business premises - Offices, Shops etc.

Rooms cleaned and redecorated	...	...	...	...	42
Floor coverings renewed	...	...	...	...	12
Lighting improved	...	...	...	...	10
Ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	5
Heating provided	...	...	...	...	6
Thermometers provided	...	...	...	...	70
Sanitary conveniences improved	...	...	...	...	11
Washing facilities provided	...	...	...	...	5
Hot water provided	...	...	...	...	21
Drinking water supply provided	...	...	...	...	3
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	-
Clothing accommodation provided	...	...	...	...	14
Seats provided	...	...	...	...	1
Structural defects remedied	...	...	...	...	5
Machinery Guarded	...	...	...	...	3.
First Aid Boxes provided	...	...	...	...	61
Abstracts displayed	...	...	...	...	98

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 - Rodent Control.

The results of the year's work under this heading are shown in the tabulated statement given below, the table having been modified to confirm with the simplified return now made annually to the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food.

		TYPE OF PROPERTY	
		NON- AGRICULTURAL	AGRICULTURAL
1.	Number of properties in district	20,272	68
2.(a)	Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	904	11
(b)	Number infested by (i) Rats	755	11
	(ii) Mice	88	0
3.(a)	Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	256	114
(b)	Number infested by (i) Rats	40	10
	(ii) Mice	18	2

This work carried out by the District Pests Officers involved the following visits of inspection:-

Local Authority premises	886
Dwelling Houses	4,580
Business Premises	951
Agricultural Premises	203
TOTAL	6,620

There was an increase in the number of rat infestations found during the year, accounted for mainly in dwelling houses. Block control schemes featured to a large extent in extending control where notification had been received, resulting in the rise in the number of infestations already noted. No more difficulties were experienced than was originally expected in the central area of Redhill under general clearance and redevelopment. The number of mice infestations found was also increased during the period. All infestations of both rats and mice were dealt with by Pests Officers of the Department.



Inspection and control work on agricultural land was continued throughout the year, and period arrangements on a quarterly charge basis for regular disinfestations by the Pests Officers were continued with satisfactory results in eight cases, relating to three agricultural holdings and five business premises, a change having occurred in the premises involved earlier in the year. Similar arrangements were also continued in respect of a large controlled tip in Herstham, where infestation was kept to a minimum. Charges at business premises continued unaltered, the occupier being required to meet the cost of the treatment on a basis of 10/- an hour, with a minimum charge of 15/-.

It has been normal practice in the past for the staff to conduct twice yearly a systematic inspection and treatment as necessary of the Borough sewerage system. For the past 4 years no evidence of rat infestation has been reported, and therefore checking measures for 1966 were modified to a representative minimum of inspection points, to include areas prone to infestation in the past. This operation involved the test baiting of approximately 260 manholes, without any "takes" being recorded. These negative results once again indicated that, for all practical purposes, the rat population in the sewers was nil.

The control work already detailed was exclusive of that carried out under contract arrangements with:-

- (a) The Surrey County Council at St. Anne's, Redhill, and its ancillary homes, day nursery, clinics, fire brigade premises, etc.;
- (b) The Group Hospital Management Committee at the Redhill General Hospital.

Apart from this rodent control work the officers were engaged from time to time at Corporation property in dealing with other pests, such as rabbits, foxes, badgers and moles; also 107 wasps' nests were destroyed during the summer period.

#### Education and Instruction

As in the past, educational visits were arranged to the Refuse Disposal Works, Sewage Works, Disinfecting Station and Caravan Sites. In the main, such visits have been for organised parties of Student Nurses, Health Visitors and Public Health Inspectors in training.







